

> Venue

Hörsaalgebäude
Johannisstraße 4
JO101
48143 Münster

> Registration

Guests are most welcome! If you intend to attend the workshop, we request you to register with Jonas Eickhoff (jonas.eickhoff@t-online.de).

> Organisation

Prof. Dr. Helene Basu
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> Decision-Making in the Realm of Finance – Interdisciplinary Conversations

Workshop | 21. and 22.06.2018



Bildnachweis: Eva Kröcher, Christoph F. Siekermann, DesertEagle | wikimedia; National Gallery of Art

› Decision-Making in the Realm of Finance – Interdisciplinary Conversations

With the collapse of socialist economies and the emergence of global capitalism, ‘financialisation’ has emerged as a key term engaging not only economists, but also historians, anthropologists, sociologists and others. The workings of finance are studied at specific sites such as stock markets and investment banking, while the logic of finance is revealed in its effects upon state policies, debt, labor and expanding social inequalities across the world. Significantly, financialisation in all its ramifications depends on and creates forms of specific social actions performed through decision-making. How are enactments of decision-making through individual behavior or organizational procedures related to varying, but related regimes of power, knowledge, temporality, rationality, technology, materiality, emotion or subjectivity giving shape to realms of finance?

To address such relationships, we suggest to shift the focus from ‘a decision’ as an event to ‘decision-making’ as it is practiced across times and places. Such practices, furthermore, cannot be reduced to theories proposed by decision sciences.

Seeking to promote conversations about decision-making between sociologists, historians and anthropologists working in the field of finance, we invite scholars across the disciplines to reflect upon and scrutinize models of decision-making, that implicitly or explicitly inform scholarly and/or actors’ representations of financial market activities.



› Programme

Thursday, 21.6.2018

14.00 Welcome & Introduction: Decision-Making SFB 1150

Panel I: Epistemology of the Market, Rational Choice & Financialization

14.30 Speculation, and the ‘Epistemology of Wager’ in 18th Century Europe
Christine Zabel (History, University of Essen)

15.15 Economic and Anthropological Analyses of Financial Decision-Making
Michael Chibnik (Anthropology, University of Iowa, USA)

16.00 Tea & Coffee Break

16.15 The fossil fuel divestment movement between politicizing investments and financializing climate protection
Stefanie Hiß (Sociology, University of Jena)

Panel II: Stock Market Practices

17.00 ‘What is one to do?’: decision-making processes among investment bankers in equity trading divisions on Wall Street
Daniela Peluso (Anthropology, University of Kent, UK)

17.45 Intermediate Discussion

19.30 Dinner

Friday, 22.6.2018

Panel II: Stock Market Practices Contd

09.30 Financial Habitus and Small Investors’ Decision Making I
Speaker I: Michael Walter (Sociology, University of Bremen)

10.15 Financial Habitus and Small Investors’ Decision Making II
Speaker II: Lydia Welbers (Sociology, University of Bremen)

11.00 Tea & Coffee Break

Panel III: Speculation, Credit & Lottery

11.15 The strange case of Mr. Speculator and Dr. Hedge: making sense of decision-making in futures markets in the 19th and 20th centuries
Alexander Engel (History, University of Goettingen)

12.00 Deciding on creditworthiness – changing prospects on solvency
Jürgen Schraten (Sociology, University of Giessen)

12.45 Lunch

13.45 No uncertain terms? Princely administrations and processes of decision-making on lottery projects in 18th century Germany
Tilman Haug (History, University of Münster)

14.30 Final Discussion & Publication